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PASS LABOR FOR AVERY AND METCALF

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ELAB, OECD

SUBJECT: MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING,

FEB. 13-15

REFS: (A) MAS/A(78)1 (B) PARIS 5420

SUMMARY -

MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MET FEBRUARY 13-15 AND APPROVED SEVERAL SECRETARIAT PROPOSALS SUCH AS FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR JULY, 1978 WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING; FOLLOW-UP WORK TO THE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE (MSAC DID NOT APPROVE PROPOSALS FOR A RELATED PART II ACTIVITY) AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING. AS DEBATE CONCERNING MIGRATION WAS PROTRACTED, COMMITTEE WAS FORCED TO POSTPONE SOME AGENDA ITEMS UNTIL NEXT MEETING. JAMES METCALF LED U.S. DELEGATION ACCOMPANIED BY DON AVERY AND LLOYD FELDMAN, DOL. END SUMMARY.

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1. CONFERENCE ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND GOVERNMENT POLICIES (MAS(78)4).

A. FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS -

THIS CONFERENCE WAS ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY THE MSAC AT ITS JUNE 1977 MEETING. THE COMMITTEE AGREED DURING SUBJECT MEETING THAT FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SAME SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ACCORDING TO SECRETARIAT'S PROPO-

SALS. ELABORATING ON THESE ARRANGEMENTS, SECRETARIAT (DYMOND) OFFERED THE FOLLOWING:

- (A) SECGEN WILL PAY RAPPORTEURS AND DISCUSSANTS;
- (B) GOVERNMENTS WILL FUND THEIR EXPERTS;
- (C) TRADE UNIONISTS AND EMPLOYERS WILL NOT REPRESENT TUAC AND BIAC AS SUCH BUT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THEIR CAPACITY AS EXPERTS. (SECRETARIAT DID NOT IDENTIFY THESE EXPERTS, BUT IS IN PROCESS OF EXTENDING INVITATIONS):
- (D) CONFERENCE WILL NOT FOCUS ON INCOMES POLICIES BUT ON INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY FORMULATION. GASS ADDED THAT AS SECRETARIAT ENVISAGED IT ALL COSTS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE BORNE BY MEMBER COUNTRIES THEMSELVES.

B. CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES -

SECRETARIAT EXPLAINED THAT CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE IS TO EXPLORE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS (E.G., LABOR UNIONS, GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES) AND OPERATIONS OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND GENERAL ECONOMIC, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICIES UNDER SUSTAINED NON-INFLATIONARY ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE MEDIUM TERM. GERMAN DEL ASKED IF CONFERENCE WOULD BE TRIPARTITE AND EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH REFERENCE TO "WAGE POLICIES" MENTIONED IN PARA 22 OF REF. DOC. HE SAID THAT SUCH POLICIES "HARDLY EXIST IN FRG". JAPANESE DEL CONSIDERED BIAC/TUAC PARTICIPA-UNCLASSIFIED

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TION APPROPRIATE, ESPECIALLY AT AN EXPERTS' MEETING. FRENCH DEL WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT CONSIDERED CONFERENCE THEMES AS TOO AMBITIOUS AND INQUIRED WHETHER LARGE NUMBERS OF PARTICIPANTS WOULD RENDER CONFERENCE UNWIELDY.

2. YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT FOLLOW-UP (MAS(78)8)
THE COMMITTEE NOTED THE PROPOSALS IN MAS(78)8 AND ENDORSED THE WORK PROPOSED IN PART I OF THE DOCUMENT TO INITIATE IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT POLICY MEASURES. THIS WORK WILL BE UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE AGREED 1978 PROGRAM. WHILE U.S., IRELAND AND SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL TO INITIATE MORE IN-DEPTH FOLLOW-UP AND RESEARCH UNDER A PART II ARRANGEMENT, THEY WERE UNABLE TO COMMIT THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS. SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS ALSO SUPPORTED THE PROPOSALS, BUT QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR SEPARATE FUNDING. IN CONCLUDING THIS DEBATE, MSAC

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NOTED SECGEN'S INTENTION TO INVITE INTERESTED COUNTRIES TO A MEETING TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL AND SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSALS FOLLOWING FURTHER SECRETARIAT PREPARATIONS.

3. MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY FOR EMPLOYMENT AND MANPOWER POLICIES (MAS(78)2; MAS(78)9)

THE COMMITTEE NOTED SECRETARIAT'S REPORT, THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S INTENTIONS TO PUBLISH IT UNDER HIS OWN RES-PONSIBILITY AND TO CONSIDER PROPOSING IT AS A BACKGROUND DOCUMENT FOR THE JUNE COUNCIL MINISTERIAL. HOWEVER, THE MSAC INSISTED THAT CORRECTIONS BE MADE TO REFLECT DIS-CUSSIONS IN THE COMMITTEE WHICH REITERATED POINTS MADE DURING THE MEETING OF THE WP ON EMPLOYMENT (SEE REF B). FOR EXAMPLE, US DEL SAID PAPER WAS TOO NEGATIVE RE POTENTIAL OF SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT POLICIES TO ALLEVIATE UNEMPLOYMENT OR COUNTER INFLATION. SEVERAL SMALLER COUNTRIES CAUTIONED THAT PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN MACRO-ECONOMIC AND SELECTIVE MANPOWER POLICIES DIFFERS AMONG COUNTRIES. TURKEY, IRELAND AND PORTUGAL ADDED THAT THEIR ECONOMIES REQUIRE FASTER GROWTH RATES AS OPPOSED TO MODERATE AND SUSTAINED LEVELS. CONCERNING THE SECRE-UNCLASSIFIED

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TARIAT'S DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT (MAS(78)4), DELEGATIONS SAID DOCUMENT'S LATE ARRIVAL ALLOWED THEM OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER ONLY PRELIMINARY COMMENTS. THE COMMITTEE AGREED, THEREFORE, THAT A REVISED VERSION BE PREPARED FOR BUREAU CONSIDERATION AND SUBSEQUENT SUBMISSION TO THE PLENARY. SOME OF THE PAPERS RECOMMENDATIONS WERE: A) ANALYSIS OF THE TRADE DISTORTING EFFECTS OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION MEASURES AND B) CLOSER INTEGRATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICIES.

- 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNCIL RECOMMENTATION ON A GENERAL EMPLOYMENT & MANPOWER POLICY (MAS(78)3). DELEGATIONS REITERATED STATEMENTS MADE DURING FEB. 9-10 EMPLOYMENT WP MEETING (SEE REF B) AND AGREED TO SEND AMENDED REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.
- 5. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (MAS(77)16) SUBJECT TO AMENDMENTS/CORRECTIONS PROPOSED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, MSAC RECOMMENDED DERESTRICTION AND PUBLICATION OF THIS REPORT.
- 6. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (MAS(77)17
 MSAC NOTED THE SECRETARIAT'S PREPARATIONS FOR THIS
 INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING, AND AGREED THAT NATIONAL
 REPORTS FOR IT SHOULD INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS OF BOTH
 FORMAL AND INFORMAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
 (I.E. WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS).
 SINCE THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE IS CLOSELY INVOLVED IN
 THIS ACTIVITY, THE DATE FOR THE CONFERENCE WILL BE
 DECIDED AFTER THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S MAY, 1978
 MEETING. MSAC ALSO NOTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S
 INTENTION TO CONSULT BIAC AND TUAC ON CONFERENCE DOCUMENTATION, AND TO PROPOSE TO THE COUNCIL THAT BIAC/
 TUAC NOMINATE OBSERVERS TO THE MEETING.

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7. MIGRATION

(A) EXPERTS REPORT ON MIGRATION, GROWTH AND DEVELOP-MENT (MAS(78)5 -

MSAC HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT PREPARED BY THE EXPERT GROUP CHAIRED BY PROFESSOR KINDLEBERGER AND REQUESTED THAT ITS INITIAL COMMENTS BE CONVEYED TO THE SECGEN. THE COMMITTEE ALSO NOTED THE SECGEN'S INTENTION TO SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE COUNCIL, AND AGREED TO CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MSAC MEETING. (THIS REPORT ATTEMPTS TO ANALYSE THE BACKGROUND AND REASONS FOR IMPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON MIGRATORY FLOWS, AND TO IDENTIFY THEIR IMPLICATIONS ON THE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL UTILIZATION OF MANPOWER. THE PAPER ALSO EXAMINES POLICY OPTIONS TO ALLEVIATE THE COSTS OF RESTRICTING LABOR FLOWS, OR TO DISTRIBUTE THEM

MORE EQUITABLY THAN IS NOW THE CASE.)

(B) FACILITATION MACHINERY (MAS(78)6)
THE COMMITTEE APPROVED INTERIM REPORT C(78)9 WHICH WAS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL JANUARY 24, 1978. THE SECRETARIAT PROPOSED THAT MAS(78)6 ENTITLED "INSTITUTION OF SPECIAL MACHINERY FOR FACILITATING THE REINSERTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS RETURNING TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY" BE APPENDED TO THE INTERIM REPORT AND THEREBY CONSTITUTE A FINAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL. SEVERAL COUNTRIES (AUSTRIA, FRG, THE NETHERLANDS AND SWITZERLAND) REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD HAVE PROVIDED A FRAMEWORK FOR BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN MEMBER

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COUNTRIES CONCERNED. THE SECRETARIAT WILL SEND A REVISED DOCUMENT TO THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES INVITING THEIR WRITTEN COMMENTS. ON THE BASIS OF THESE REPLIES, THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL MAKE PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER WORK. AT ISSUE IS THE RANGE OF INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS THE SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSED FRAMEWORK COULD IMPOSE ON COUNTRIES OF IMMIGRATION. MSAC WILL RESUME THIS DISCUSSION AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

8. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (MAS/WP4(76)12 THIS ITEM WAS DEFERRED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING AND DELE-GATIONS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS THEREON ASAP.

ACTION REQUEST: WRITTEN COMMENTS TO UPDATE, CORRECT OR REVISE U.S. SUBMISSION BY APRIL 15, 1978. (THIS WOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR SECRETARIAT TO TRANSLATE AND DISTRIBUTE DOCUMENT IN TIME FOR MSAC MAY MEETING.)

9. OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETINGS-

A) BUREAU MEETS IN DUBLIN, APRIL 10, 1978

B. MSAC MEETS MAY 17-18 PRECEDED MAY 16 BY BIAC/TUAC UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSULTATIONS WITH BUREAU TO REVIEW FUTURE WORK.

10. THIS CABLE WAS PREPARED FOLLOWING THE DEPARTURE OF WASHINGTON MEMBERS OF THE U.S. DELEGATION. SALZMAN

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